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(54) PHYSIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE SUBSTANCE AND ITS PRODUCTION

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To produce a physiologically active substance containing a large amount of a γ -glucan by carrying out the hydrolytic treatment of a mycelium, a fruiting body, etc., of *Agaricus blazei* with especially a hemicellulase as an enzymic agent.

SOLUTION: This physiologically active substance is produced by carrying out the hydrolytic treatment of any of a mycelium or a fruiting body of *Agaricus blazei* or a waste liquor after culturing the mycelium thereof with an enzymic agent consisting essentially of a hemicellulase at 25-60° C for 20-120 min. Active polysaccharides containing a large amount of a γ -glucan are obtained to raise the yield of the β -glucan from the *Agaricus blazei*. The hemicellulase is obtained by culturing *Trichoderma viride* JAM4033, *Aspergillus tamarai* JAM4007, etc. Since the concentration of the active polysaccharides is raised, the digestion and absorption are remarkably improved when incorporating the physiologically active substance into the body and the substance has rapid action properties and is capable of manifesting excellent immunopotentiating effects on cancers and other adult diseases.

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